

## Bidirectional Domain Names

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0081] A two-phase system and method for determining a display order of characters in a multilingual domain name. First, inferencing resolves the direction of indeterminate characters, such as the full stop or "dot", hyphen-minus, Arabic numeral, and European numeral, during which each character is assigned a strong direction left or right. Second, reordering takes the fully resolved characters and generates a display ordering for them. The inferencing phase is accomplished in several passes including assigning Arabic and Hebrew letters right-to-left direction, and assigning left-to-right direction to full stops and other alphabetic characters. Next, directions of digits are resolved by assigning all Arabic numerals a right-to-left direction; and assigning all European numerals left-to-right direction, unless the European numeral is surrounded by right-to-left characters. A final set of passes resolves the directions of hyphen-minus characters by assigning all hyphen-minus characters left-to-right, unless the hyphen-minus is surrounded by characters whose direction is right-to-left.